

REMARKS

In the Office Action, claims 1-4 and 7-21 were rejected. Claims 5 and 6 were allowed. All pending claims are believed to be clearly allowable. Reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims are requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Independent claims 1 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Chen et al. (U.S. Patent 6,522,882, hereinafter “Chen”). Anticipation requires the disclosure in a single prior art reference of each element of the claim under consideration. Applicants respectfully assert that the present invention, as recited in independent claims 1 and 13, is patentable over Chen.

Claim 1

Claim 1 is clearly distinguishable from the teachings of Chen. In particular, Chen does not teach, disclose or suggest at least “calculating, at each of the at least three receivers, time difference of arrival information based on the signal from said at least one beacon transmitter and the RF signal transmitted from the object”, as recited in claim 1. Instead, Chen teaches calculating time difference of arrival by transmitting a beacon signal from the *mobile transceiver itself* to cell sites and receiving the same back.

In particular, as set forth in column 5 of Chen:

In particular, the configuration is well suited for supporting a method for locating the mobile transceiver 18 in a conversation state, where one of the plurality of cell sites 14 transmits to the mobile transceiver 18 a handoff signal for causing the transceiver to continually transmit a predetermined beacon signal, for example a shortened burst, without leaving the conversation state; at at least some of the plurality of cell sites 14, receiving the predetermined beacon signal and measuring the time at which the beacon signal was received; and calculating the location of the mobile transceiver 18 from the respective location of each of the receiving plurality of cell sites 14

and the respective times at which the beacon signal was received at each of the receiving plurality of cell sites 14. Chen et al., col. 5, lines 37-50.

Thus, Chen teaches a system in which the *location of a mobile transceiver has to be determined*. As disclosed, it is the mobile transceiver that transmits a predetermined beacon signal for calculating the location of the mobile transceiver. Therefore, the mobile transceiver *cannot* qualify as the claimed beacon transmitter, which is at a *known location*, as recited in claim 1.

Furthermore, as recited in claim 1, the time difference of arrival is calculated based upon a signal from the beacon transmitter and an RF signal from the object whose location is to be determined. In stark contrast, Chen relies upon transmitting a beacon signal from the mobile transceiver to the cell sites and receiving the same back to determine the time difference of arrival, which is utilized to determine the location of the mobile transceiver.

Therefore, the present invention, as recited in independent claim 1 is not anticipated by Chen. Thus, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) be withdrawn.

Claim 13

Claim 13 was similarly rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Chen. Applicants respectfully assert that the present invention, as recited in independent claim 13, is patentable over Chen.

In particular, Chen does not teach, disclose or suggest at least the claimed “at least one beacon transmitter at a known location for transmitting a beacon signal”. Instead, Chen teaches transmitting a beacon signal from the mobile transceiver itself to cell sites and receiving the same back to determine the time difference of arrival for calculating the location of the mobile transceiver. As discussed above, nowhere does Chen teach, disclose

or suggest calculating time difference of arrival information based on the beacon signal and the RF signal together.

Therefore, the present invention, as recited in independent claim 13 is not anticipated by Chen. Thus, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of Claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) be withdrawn.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 2-4, 7-12 and 14-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen in view of Richards et al. (U.S. Patent 6,466,125).

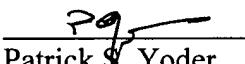
The claims rejected under this section all depend directly or indirectly from independent claims 1 and 13 discussed above. The Richards et al. reference has been reviewed and is not believed to obviate the deficiencies of the Chen discussed above, particularly regarding the use of a beacon transmitter. Accordingly, Richards et al. do not obviate the deficiencies of Chen in this regard. Consequently, all of the dependent claims are believed to be patentable both by virtue of their dependency from an allowable base claim, as well as for the subject matter they separately recite. Reconsideration and allowance of all of the dependent claims on this basis are requested.

Conclusion

In view of the remarks and amendments set forth above, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the pending claims. If the Examiner believes that a telephonic interview will help speed this application toward issuance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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